

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S4309–S4457

Measures Introduced: Sixteen bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1093–1108, and S. Res. 146–148. **Page S4437**

Measures Reported:

S. 193, to increase cooperation on energy issues between the United States Government and foreign governments and entities in order to secure the strategic and economic interests of the United States. (S. Rept. No. 110–54)

H.R. 1003, to amend the Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act of 1998 to reauthorize the United States Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy. (S. Rept. No. 110–55)

S. Res. 112, designating April 6, 2007, as “National Missing Persons Day”. **Pages S4436–37**

Measures Passed:

Iraqi and Afghani Translators and Interpreters: Senate passed S. 1104, to increase the number of Iraqi and Afghani translators and interpreters who may be admitted to the U.S. as special immigrants. **Pages S4454–55**

Raymond G. Murphy Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center: Committee on Veterans Affairs was discharged from further consideration of S. 229, to redesignate a Federal building in Albuquerque, New Mexico, as the “Raymond G. Murphy Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center”, and the bill was then passed. **Page S4455**

Congratulating the University of Tennessee Women’s Basketball Team: Senate agreed to S. Res. 147, congratulating the University of Tennessee women’s basketball team for winning the 2007 NCAA Division I Women’s Basketball Championship. **Pages S4455–56**

Commending the University of Florida Men’s Basketball Team: Senate agreed to S. Res. 148, commending the University of Florida men’s basketball team for winning the 2007 National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division I Basketball Championship. **Page S4456**

Release of Israeli Soldiers: Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 92, calling for the immediate and unconditional release of soldiers of Israel held captive by Hamas and Hezbollah, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Pages S4456–57**

Intelligence Authorization Act: Senate began consideration of S. 372, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 for the intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Intelligence Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, after agreeing to the motion to proceed. **Pages S4428–29**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the bill and, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur on Monday, April 16, 2007 at 5:30 p.m. **Page S4428**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill on Monday, April 16, 2007, at 3 p.m., and that Senator Rockefeller be recognized at that time to offer a managers amendment on behalf of himself and Senator Bond; provided further that first-degree amendments be filed by 2:30 p.m. on Monday, April 16, 2007. **Page S4457**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 94 yeas to 3 nays (Vote No. 129), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill. **Pages S4413–29**

Committee Reporting—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that on Friday, April 13, 2007, notwithstanding an adjournment of the Senate, that the Committee on Finance be permitted to report S. 3, to amend part D of title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for fair prescription drug prices for Medicare beneficiaries, during the hours of 12 noon to 2 p.m.; further that if the bill is reported, it be in order for the Majority Leader to move to proceed to the bill on Monday, April 16, 2007. **Page S4457**

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

Claude M. Kicklighter, of Georgia, to be Inspector General, Department of Defense.

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Messages from the House: Page S4435

Enrolled Bills Presented: Page S4435

Executive Communications: Pages S4435–36

Executive Reports of Committees: Page S4437

Additional Cosponsors: Pages S4437–39

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:
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Additional Statements: Pages S4434–35

Amendments Submitted: Page S4453

Authorities for Committees to Meet:
Pages S4453–54

Privileges of the Floor: Page S4454

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—129) Page S4413

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m., and adjourned at 7:24 p.m., until 2 p.m. on Monday, April 16, 2007. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S4457.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2008 for the Department of Veterans Affairs, after receiving testimony from R. James Nicholson, Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

PET FOOD RECALL

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine the current pet food recall, after receiving testimony from Stephen F. Sundlof, Director, Center for Veterinary Medicine, and Steve Solomon, Deputy Director, Office of Regional Operations, both of the Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services; Elizabeth Hodgkins, All About Cats Health and Wellness Center, Yorba Linda, California; Claudia A. Kirk, University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine, Knoxville; Duane Ekedahl, Pet Food Institute, Washington,

D.C.; and Eric Nelson, Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection, Madison, on behalf of the American Association of Feed Control Officers.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY THEFT

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the issue of piracy, focusing on intellectual property theft's impact on America's place in the global economy and strategies for improving enforcement, after receiving testimony from Senator Voinovich; Loren Yager, Director, International Affairs and Trade, Government Accountability Office; Moises Naim, Foreign Policy, and Brad Hunter, U.S. Chamber of Commerce, both of Washington, D.C.; and Timothy E. Demarais, ABRO Industries, Inc., South Bend, Indiana.

TRANSPORTATION WORKER IDENTIFICATION CREDENTIAL

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine Transportation Workers Identification Credentials (TWIC) implementation, after receiving testimony from Kip Hawley, Assistant Secretary, Transportation Security Administration, and Rear Admiral Brian Salerno, Director, Inspections and Compliance, United States Coast Guard, both of the Department of Homeland Security; Norman J. Rabkin, Managing Director, Homeland Security and Justice Issues, Government Accountability Office; Lisa B. Himber, Maritime Exchange for the Delaware River and Bay, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Paul Kaipo Pomaikai, Sr., Sause Bros., Inc., Honolulu, Hawaii; and Michael Rodriguez, International Organization of Masters, Mates and Pilots, Linthicum Heights, Maryland.

BIOFUELS FOR ENERGY SECURITY AND TRANSPORTATION ACT

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine S. 987, to enhance the energy security of the United States by promoting biofuels, after receiving testimony from Alexander Karsner, Assistant Secretary of Energy for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy; Bob Dinneen, Renewable Fuels Association, Daniel A. Lashof, Natural Resources Defense Council Climate Center, and Red Cavaney, American Petroleum Institute, all of Washington, D.C.; and Brian Foody, Iogen Corporation, Ontario, Canada.

FEDERAL TAX RETURNS

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Internal Revenue Service's (IRS) tax filing season performance as an indicator of how well the IRS serves taxpayers, after receiving testimony